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NOT RELEVANT
TO BAY OF PIGS

CUBAN LABOR CONGRESS

The results of the stormy congress of the dominant Cuban Workers' Confederation (CTC) which ended on 23 November may be only a surface setback for Fidel Castro and are, at the least, a partial victory for the influential Communist minority in the CTC. The delegates rejected a "unity" slate for the top officials of the CTC executive committee which had been endorsed by Castro and contained three Communists, but chose a group with at least three labor leaders likely to collaborate with Communists.

David Salvador, an opportunist who has worked with Communists in the past, remains as Castro's hand-picked secretary general. Of the five strongly anti-Communist members on the CTC directorate which has served provisionally since Batista's defeat, only two were re-elected. Raul Castro reportedly had ordered the expulsion of all five.

CTC withdrawal from the anti-Communist Inter-American Organization of Workers (ORIT) was an important Communist objective, but this action and the strongly anti-US resolutions

adopted by the congress probably were primarily a result of Castro's anti-American campaign. ORIT, in which Cuban labor leaders close to Batista were active, was attacked as a "tool of US imperialism." Instead of affiliating with the Communist-front Confederation of Latin American Workers (CTAL), the CTC voted to establish a labor mission to spread the news of the Cuban revolution abroad and to name Cuban labor attachés to strengthen labor relations throughout the world.

Both suggestions are reminiscent of Argentine ex-dictator Peron's attempts to create a "third-force labor movement." Such a movement would further the plan to dissolve the largely ineffectual CTAL and form a new Latin American labor organization which reportedly was discussed at the conference of Latin American delegates to the Soviet 21st party congress. It is likely to attract support from labor groups in other Latin American countries which dislike both CTAL and ORIT.